Years of Lost Life:

The years of lost life (YLL) is a summary measure of premature mortality. YLL estimates the years of potential life lost due to premature deaths. YLL takes into account the age at which deaths occur, giving greater weight to deaths at a younger age and lower weight to deaths at older age.

YLL can be used to calculate the YLL due to a specific cause of death as a proportion of the total YLL lost in the population due to premature mortality. Such indicator can be used in public health planning to compare the relative importance of different causes of premature deaths within a given population, to set priorities for prevention, and to compare the premature mortality experience between populations.

Data & Methods:

- Years of Life Lost (YLL) were calculated by subtracting the age at death from the standard life expectancy for each decedent at age of death. Male and female life expectancy at each individual age was determined from the 2014 Social Security Administration Period Life Table.

Key Findings:

**Overdose Deaths**
- 1,028,005 years of lost life in Ohio over a ten-year period
- 188,423 years of lost life in 2017 (the peak year for overdoses in Ohio)
- Average lifespan for Ohioans has been lowered by an average of 1.28 years due to overdose deaths
- YLL is highest in urban counties
- Opioid overdoses accounted for 81% of all years of lost life

**Firearm Deaths**
- 484,122 years of lost life in over a ten-year period due to firearm deaths
- 188,423 years of lost life in 2017 (the peak year for overdoses in Ohio)
- Average lifespan for Ohioans has been lowered by an average of 0.44 years due to firearm deaths
- YLL is highest in rural counties
- Suicides accounted for 52% of all lost years of life due to firearm deaths

**Suicide Deaths**
- 15,246 suicides in Ohio from 2008 to 2017
- Suicides accounted for 526,501 years of lost life
- Suicide rate in Ohio increased by 24% over the 10-year study period
- Suicide rates and years of lost life were highest in Appalachian Ohio counties
- Firearms accounted for 50.9% of all suicides
- Suicides by firearm were highest in rural counties